

Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

A publication of the Mars Program Office and the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

November 2016

Mars Science News

Save the Date for MEPAG Meeting 33: February 22-23, 2017

MEPAG will be holding its 33rd face-to-face meeting in the Pasadena, CA area (final location to be determined). Once arrangements are finalized, a first circular will be sent out and posted to the [MEPAG Meeting page](#).

MEPAG Meeting 32 Presentations Posted

Thank you to all who participated in the 32nd MEPAG meeting - we hope you found it useful and informative. The presentations and meeting summary are now available at <http://mepag.nasa.gov/meetings.cfm?expand=m32>. As stated during the meeting, please send your comments about this meeting and its discussion topics to mepagmeetingqs@jpl.nasa.gov. In particular, we welcome comments on the proposed MEPAG studies (see the "Upcoming MEPAG activities" presentation) and possible agenda items for the spring face-to-face MEPAG Meeting (#33; see "Wrap-up")

Call for Papers: Icarus Special Issue

The Scientific Organizing Committee of the 6th International Conference on Mars Polar Science and Exploration is organizing a special issue of Icarus related to Mars Polar research. In recognition of the broad scope, interdisciplinary nature, and strong international interest in this topic, they welcome the participation of any interested scientist with relevant theoretical, experimental, or field experience. This special issue is open to all interested authors with Mars Polar related research to publish, whether they attended the conference or not. Please email questions or notices of intent to guest editors, [Adrian Brown](#) and [Michael Sori](#).

Manuscripts should be submitted through [Icarus' EVISE website](#). Authors must select "Mars Polar Science VI" when they reach the "Article Type" step in the submission process.

Paper submission Deadline: February 1, 2017 with final publication of Special Issue: Fall 2017

Student Travel Grant available for 3rd 2020 Mars Rover Landing Site Workshop

The Mars Program Office has announced that travel funding will be made available for undergraduate and graduate students who are U.S. citizens or legal residents, with Mars-related interests, to attend the **Third Landing Site Workshop for the 2020 Mars Rover Mission** (http://marsnext.jpl.nasa.gov/workshops/wkshp_2017_02.cfm) to be held February 8-10, 2017 in Monrovia, CA. Applications are due November 18, 2016. NASA Headquarters will make the selections and we expect to notify students mid-December. We anticipate selection of up to three (3) students for awards. Please contact Dr. Serina Diniega (serina.diniega@jpl.nasa.gov) with any questions. The workshop will focus on downselection from the eight landing sites currently being considered. Information on the workshop, including location, will be posted on <http://marsnext.jpl.nasa.gov>, as it becomes available.

The 3rd International Workshop on Instrumentation for Planetary Missions ...

Was held in Pasadena, CA in October. A special session on the Mars 2020 rover instrument package and many other presentations of interest to the Mars community were featured. Outcomes include summaries of take-home messages in a slideshow format and a planetary instrument database, both of which can be found at the following URL. <http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/ipm2016/follow-up/>. These represent a potentially valuable set of status reports and possible networking opportunities for the Mars community.

The GSA Cordilleran Section Meeting: May 23-25, 2017 in Honolulu, HI.

There will be a number of sessions of relevance to planetary scientists with the following sessions of possible interest to the Mars community, including:

T16 New Developments in the Geology and Geochemistry of Mars

T17 Volcanism Across the Solar System

T18 Deposition and Diagenesis of Volcaniclastic Sediments on Earth and Mars

T19 Mars On Earth: Understanding Mars Through Earth Surface Processes

Abstract deadline is **14 February 2017**. For more information see: <http://www.geosociety.org/Sections/cord/2017mtg>

3rd Planetary Data Workshop: June 12-25, 2017

The 3rd Planetary Data Workshop will be held in Flagstaff, AZ to cover a range of planetary data topics, including mission data availability and tools, data access capabilities, data user training, GIS, planetary mapping, PDS data, services, and capabilities. Please submit an [Indication of Interest](#) by Friday, February 10, 2017, to be added to the mailing list to receive reminders and other pertinent information about this meeting.

Near-term Due Dates (next three months)

Due	Project
November 7	Academies' Search for Life Workshop / A Workshop on Searching for Life Across Space and Time , Poster Abstract deadline
December 1	IEEE Aerospace Conference , Early Registration deadline.
January 18	AbSciCon , Abstract deadline.

Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Fourth Quarter, 2016		
	November 14, 2016 Tempe, AZ, USA	2001 Mars Odyssey PSG Meeting Contact Jeff Plaut, Jeffrey.J.Plaut@jpl.nasa.gov
	November 29-December 1, 2016 Washington DC, USA	VEXAG Meeting #14 http://www.lpi.usra.edu/vexag/meetings/upcoming/ , NCTS# 24529-17
	December 5-6, 2016 Irvine, CA, USA	Academies' Search for Life Workshop/A Workshop on Searching for Life Across Space and Time http://SearchingForLife.eventbrite.com , For those unable to attend in person, the live workshop webcast will be available at: https://livestream.com/accounts/15221519/events/6098927
	December 12-16, 2016 San Francisco, CA, USA	AGU Fall Meeting http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2016/ , NCTS# 25415-17

First—Second Quarter, 2017

New!	January 2-3, 2017 Grapevine, TX, USA	Exoplanets Exploration Program Analysis Group meeting https://exoplanets.nasa.gov/exep/events/159/
	January 11-13, 2017 Tucson, AZ, USA	16th Meeting of the NASA Small Bodies Assessment Group http://www.lpi.usra.edu/sbag/ NCTS# 27699-17
	January 11-13, 2017 Boulder, CO, USA	The Dust, Atmosphere and Plasma Environment of the Moon and Small Bodies Workshop http://impact.colorado.edu/dap_meeting.html
	January 17-20, 2017 Granada, SPAIN	Sixth International Workshop on the Mars Atmosphere: Modelling and Observations http://www-mars.lmd.jussieu.fr/granada2017/ , NCTS# 26193-17
	February 8-10, 2017 Pasadena, CA, USA	Mars 2020 Rover Third Landing Site Workshop http://marsnext.jpl.nasa.gov NCTS# 26193-17
New!	February 22—23, 2017 Pasadena, CA, USA	MEPAG Meeting 33 http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meetings.cfm
New!	February 22—23, 2017 Atlanta, GA, USA	Outer Planets Assessment Group Meeting http://www.lpi.usra.edu/opag/
New!	February 27—March 1, 2017 Washington, DC, USA	Planetary Science Vision 2050 Workshop http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/V2050/ NCTS# 28002-17
	March 4-11, 2017 Big Sky, MT, USA	IEEE Aerospace Conference https://www.aeroconf.org/ , NCTS# 26165-17
	March 20-24, 2017 The Woodlands, TX, USA	Lunar and Planetary Science Conference http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2017/ , NCTS# 26280-17
	March 28-30, 2017 Washington, DC, USA	NRC's Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science (CAPS)
	April 24-27, 2017 Phoenix, AZ, USA	Astrobiology Science Conference http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/abscicon2017/ NCTS# 27507-17
	May 15-19, 2017 Boulder, CO, USA	International Conference on Mars Aeronomy http://lasp.colorado.edu/meetings/marsaeronomy2017/index.php , NCTS# 26278-17
	May 16-19, 2017 St. George, UT, USA	Fifth International Planetary Dunes Workshop http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/dunes2017/
New!	May 30—31, 2017 Cambridge, UK	6th International CubeSat Workshop https://icubesat.org
	June 13-15, 2017 Greenbelt, MD, USA	17th Meeting of the NASA Small Bodies Assessment Group http://www.lpi.usra.edu/sbag/
New!	June 12—16, 2017 The Hague, Netherlands	14th International Planetary Probe Workshop (IPPW-14)

Third— Fourth Quarter, 2017

	July 13-15, 2017 Houston, TX, USA	Dust in the Atmosphere of Mars and Its Impact on the Human Exploration of Mars http://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/marsdust2017/
	July 24—27, 2017 Santa Fe, NM, USA	Meteoritical Society Meeting http://meteoriticalsociety.org/?page_id=18
	September 13-14, 2017 Washington, DC, USA	NRC's Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science (CAPS) http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/SSB_067577#Meetings_and_Events
New!	December 11—15, 2017 New Orleans, LA, USA	American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting (AGU)

Seasons on Mars

	MY33	MY34	MY35
Start of Northern Spring / L_s 0	6/18/2015	5/05/2017	3/23/2019
Start of Northern Summer / L_s 90	1/03/2016	11/20/2017	10/08/2019
Start of Northern Autumn / L_s 180	7/04/2016	5/22/2018	4/08/2020
Start of Northern Winter / L_s 270	11/28/2016	10/16/2018	9/02/2020

Special holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/meetings

Good Friday	3/25/2016	4/14/2017	3/30/2018	4/19/2019
Rosh Hashanah	10/03/2016	9/21/2017	9/10/2018	9/30/2019
Yom Kippur	10/12/2016	9/30/2017	9/19/2018	10/09/2019
(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening)				
Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/10/2016	10/09/2017	10/08/2018	10/14/2019
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/24/2016	11/23/2017	11/22/2018	11/28/2019
Christmas Day	12/25/2016	12/25/2017	12/25/2018	12/25/2019

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Please send your Mars Community Announcements and calendar items for inclusion in next month's newsletter to:
Meredith Cosby at Meredith.A.Cosby@jpl.nasa.gov.

This newsletter (and all previous months') is also posted on the MEPAG website: <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov>

- If you wish to withdraw from the electronic mailing list this newsletter is sent out to, please send an email from your email account to mepag-removesignup@jpl.nasa.gov.
- To be added to this list and receive this monthly newsletter and other Mars Science announcements, or to update your MEPAG directory information (which contains the email list used for sending out this newsletter), please fill out the online form: <http://goo.gl/forms/WilmhPI M9V> (also linked on the MEPAG website <http://mepag.nasa.gov/>, under Updates).